said housing includes a foot portion which extends rearward beyond connecting portions of said electrical contacts,

said connecting portions to be connected to said circuit board, and

said mount bottom surface extends to a rear end of said foot portion

and wherein said fitting part of said housing has a lower surface and said mount bottom surface of said housing is located at a higher level than said lower surface of said fitting part of said housing, and a step is provided between said lower surface of said fitting part and said mount bottom surface, the housing having a contact- retaining portion with a thick, vertically extending wall in which contact-retaining portion said contacts are retained tightly. said step being formed on a bottom of the wall vertically aligned below the contact-retaining portion.

Cancel claims 2 and 3

Add new claim 4

4 (New)A connector according to claim 1 wherein said contacts are retained tightly in the contact-retaining portion thick wall by press-fitting therein.

Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended by inclusion of the limitations of original claims 2 and 3 and adding emphasis that the step is vertically aligned below the contact retaining portion being formed on a bottom of a thick, vertically extending wall thereof in which the contacts are retained tightly. Amendment has also been made to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112.

New claim 4 particularizes that the contacts are press- fit in the wall of the contact-retaining portion.

In contending the rejection of claims 1-3 as anticipated under 35 USC 102 by Hashimoto, as it may be applied to the new claims it is pointed out that the step of the reference is not formed on a bottom of the wall vertically aligned below the contact-retaining portion of the housing but is located rearward of the contact retaining portion. Thus, the rejection under 35 USC 102 cannot apply to claim 1 as amended.

Contact retaining portions of electrical connector housings are relatively massive blocks of plastic providing a thick wall as compared with the remainder of the housing